Regulation and control of ground water

4426. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) have been constituted to regulate and control ground water management and development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how far Central Ground Water Authority has achieved the target to regulate and control ground water;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what concrete steps Government propose to take to solve the shortage of ground water and river in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and(b) Yes Sir. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under sub-section 3 of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection)Act,1986 *vide &* notification dated 14.01.1997 and subsequent amendments for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the country.

(c) The Central Ground Water Authority has undertaken the following regulatory measures to control the development of ground water.

(i) Central Ground Water Authority is regulating withdrawal of ground . water by industries/projects in 1065 over-exploited, critical and semi-critical areas. List of these areas has been circulated to the State Pollution Control Boards and Ministry of Environment & Forests which refer the new industries/projects falling in these areas to CGWA for obtaining permission. Pre-conditions in case of permissions are mandatory adoption of rain water harvesting system, monitoring of ground water abstraction as well as monitoring of ground water level and quality etc. by the industry.

(ii) CGWA has notified 43 Over-exploited areas in the country for regulation of ground water development and management. For enforcement of the regulatory directions Issued under Section 5

of EPA. 1986, concerned Deputy Commissioners/ District Magistrates have been authorized to take necessary action in case of violation of directives of CGWA in the notified areas. In these notified areas, installation of new ground water abstraction structures is not permitted without prior specific approval of the Authority. For more effective regulation of ground water development and management, Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of District Collector/Deputy Commissioners have been constituted.

(iii) Directions have been issued Group Housing Societies, Institutes, Hotels, Industries, Farm Houses, etc. in the notified areas of Delhi, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Gaziabad and other areas of NCT Delhi where ground water table is below 8 metres from ground surface to adopt roof top rain water harvesting system. The last date for adoption of rain water harvesting has been extended upto 30.06.2007.

(iv) CGWA have also notified 65 over-exploited areas in various States for registration of ground water abstraction structures, which showed a very steep decline in ground water levels and required action for regulation.

(d)Does not arise.

(e) Several measures for development and management of irrigation are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practices etc. However,Government of India is providing Central Assistance to the State Governments through various schemes/programmes, such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programmes (AIBP); Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme; National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture etc. The Government of India also encourages rain water harvesting and recharge to ground water for conservation of water. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, has also circulated Manual/Guide on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of

ground water levels. Ministry of Water Resources have circulated a revised Model Bill to regulate and control the development and management of ground water to the States/Union territories in 2005.

Completion of irrigation schemes

†4427. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of forest and agricultural land acquired in each State for construction of large and medium irrigation schemes during the last three years;

(b) the total amount paid as compensation for this purpose;

(c) the total additional area for which arrangement have been made for its irrigation; and

(d) the details of the irrigation schemes lying incomplete for more than five to ten years as on 31st January, 2007, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A statement showing the State wise diversion of forest land under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for Irrigation Projects with effect from 01.01.2004 to 14.03.2007 is enclosed (See below). Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects including compensation to be paid for land acquisition primarily rests with the concerned State Government and project authorities.

(c) Irrigation potential created from major and medium irrigation projects and surface minor irrigation schemes up to the end of 9th plan is 50.65 million ha. Corresponding projection for 10th plan is 56.66 million ha.

(d) Considering normal gestation period for completion of a major project as 10 to 15 years and that of a medium project as 5 to 8 years, the major projects started during or before 1990-92 and medium projects started during or before 8th plan which will be continuing as ongoing in 11th plan may be considered as delayed projects. As per the Working Group Report

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.